



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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5 March 1992

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Ugandan, Kenyan, Tanzanian Foreign Ministers Meet
*EA0403155592 Kampala Radio Uganda Network
in English 0700 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Text] East African foreign ministers have ended talks in (Mwiya), western Uganda, aimed at working out details of the program to reactivate and deepen cooperation among the three countries in the political, economic, social, cultural and security fields.

The Ugandan delegation was led by the Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Paul Ssemogerere, the Tanzanian side by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr. Ahmed Hassan Diria, and the Kenyan team by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr. Wilson Ndolo Ayah.

The meeting considered the recommendations of the tripartite committee of experts meeting which was held in Nairobi last month.

The ministers discussed and adopted the draft common text on agreed areas for cooperation in the economic, political, social, cultural, and security fields, and the draft agreement of a permanent tripartite commission for cooperation between the three sister countries. To this end, they recommended the setting up of a small secretariat at an appropriate time to service and coordinate the activities of the commission.

The ministers expressed confidence that they would be able to fulfill the mandate given to them by the three heads of state to finalize their work and present their report to the summit of the three heads of state by the 31st March 1992 in Tanzania.

The foreign ministers of the three countries reviewed developments beyond the subregion with particular regard to the situation in the Horn of Africa and South Africa. The ministers expressed their deep concern about the unrelenting civil strife in Somalia.

They welcomed the peace initiative by the UN, the OAU, the Arab League and the Organization of Islamic Conference and other concerned parties with a view to bringing about an effective cease-fire and finding a durable solution to the conflict in that country.

The three foreign ministers expressed anxiety about the unfolding situation in South Africa and expressed the hope that the impending all-white referendum would produce results that would contribute to the progress towards the process of democratization under way in that country. In this regard, the three ministers commended the initiative of the ANC [African National Congress], PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], and other democratic forces as well as of Mr. de Klerk, but they expressed their apprehension that a negative vote in the referendum would plunge that country into a civil war with far reaching repercussions. The ministers endorsed the position adopted by the OAU Council of Ministers at their 56th session on the question of South Africa.

The meeting was held in the friendly and brotherly atmosphere that characterizes the good relations among the three countries.

The ministers of foreign affairs and international cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, and that of the Republic of Kenya expressed on behalf of their delegations their gratitude to the Government and people of Uganda for the warm hospitality accorded to them during their stay in Uganda.

Burundi

Soldiers Attempt Coup; All Reported Arrested

AB0403225392 Brazzaville Radio Nationale Congolaise in French 1830 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] A report that has just reached us: There was an attempted putsch in Burundi this morning. About 30 Tutsi soldiers are reported to have attempted this putsch. These soldiers were overpowered. Let us listen to the remarks—just recorded by Assane Diop—of Burundi Prime Minister Adrien Sibomana:

[Begin recording] [Sibomana] No, there were not even any exchanges of fire. The first group that arrived at the paratroop battalion's camp was immediately dissuaded. There was just a warning and they fled.

[Diop] Were they Tutsi extremists? Are all these people under arrest?

[Sibomana] Yes, all these soldiers are under arrest.

[Diop] And these people are going to be prosecuted?

[Sibomana] By the military court, to be specific. We have the impression that there is a Libyan connection here, as in March, 1989.

[Diop] That means?

[Sibomana] That means people are in the pay of ex-President Bagaza, and are trying to call into question, to destabilize, the regime.

[Diop] Mr. Prime Minister, can this not jeopardize the democratic process you have initiated with the referendum on the Constitution slated for 9 March?

[Sibomana] Instead, I have the impression that this has strengthened our ideals and conviction, because for a while now we have been suspecting the Army of seeking to [words indistinct].

[Diop] Thus, it was the troops who overpowered the 30 Tutsi soldiers?

[Sibomana] Yes. [end recording]

Those were the words of Burundi Prime Minister Adrien Sibomana. He was speaking to us about an attempted putsch this morning in Burundi.

Christophe Boisbouvier, you have some details: What happened?

[Boisbouvier] Well, apparently it seems that one has to go back to last November. At that time rebels violently attacked the Muzinda military camp about 12 kilometers from the capital of Bujumbura. The soldiers resisted, and as you may remember, they then embarked on spree of repression that was quite savage and in which several innocent civilians are reported to have been killed. As a result, the Burundi president decided in recent days to punish those soldiers and to arrest several NCO's,

including a chief warrant officer. The soldiers did not accept this and so there was a rebellion yesterday. Apparently, about 100 of these soldiers from the Muzinda camp, traveling in several vehicles—several trucks—decided to travel to Bujumbura. They were reportedly intercepted about five kilometers from the capital. Automatic weapons fire was reportedly heard. They are reported to have been intercepted by the Bujumbura armored battalion, and are thus reported to have been defeated, which would explain the arrest of these mutineers. The situation is currently calm in the Burundi capital.

Radio Confirms Coup Foiled

EA0403162092 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in English 1600 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] A mutiny of soldiers attempting to overthrow the regime of the government [words indistinct] Burundi was foiled early this morning and about 30 soldiers attacking the [word indistinct] but they did not receive the backing of their colleagues.

Normal activities continued in the capital Bujumbura. The mutineers are now said to be under arrest.

Chief of Staff on Coup Attempt

EA0403223592 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Interview with Colonel Michel Mibarurwa, chief of staff of the Burundian Armed Forces, by Athanase Mutana on 4 March; place not given—recorded]

[Text] Some 30 soldiers from Muzinda camp were about to put us in a predicament by misleading us once again after attempting to overthrow the government. They tried in vain to win support from other barracks in Bujumbura. All this happened while Burundians who fulfilled the required conditions are gearing up to vote on Monday, 9 March, in a referendum on the draft constitution of the Republic of Burundi. In the meantime, you can see that there are still some who have not yet understood the policy of the Third Republic, which is fighting to strengthen unity and democracy. Now, how did the soldiers who were about to overthrow the regime make their plans? What did they wish to achieve? Colonel Michel Mibarurwa, chief of staff, answered all these questions in an interview with our colleague Athanase Mutana.

[Begin recording] [Mibarurwa] For some days, there have been rumors in Bujumbura of a pending coup d'etat. I think you had already heard about that here in Bujumbura, as it was a common rumor. When we heard the rumors, we tried to investigate, but we could not clarify them. Perhaps we did not investigate them properly or the investigator did not believe them. Then, early this morning, part of the Muzinda camp tried to embarrass the Armed Forces by forcefully overthrowing the head of state. This did not succeed.

So, they came from Muzinda in small groups at dawn, seeking to rally collaborators—but these people rejected their plans, refused to follow them, and so the groups departed. They began at the airborne troops barracks, but the latter repulsed them and even captured one of them. From the paratroopers they headed for the Armed Forces base, where they were also repulsed. They felt ashamed and returned to their base. There, they surrendered and laid down their arms. Now, they are all in prison, awaiting trial by a war tribunal [conseil de guerre].

[Mutana] Were there other soldiers? Accomplices?

[Mibarurwa] Nobody else followed them. (It is only) the 30 soldiers who reached Bujumbura. All the others rejected them and repulsed them. Thus, you fully understand that nobody else was with them.

[Mutana] While interrogating them, what did they tell you was their problem?

[Mibarurwa] They said nothing. They only said that they were coming to overthrow the current government. Those who were more forthcoming said: We have backers. When asked who they were, they said that it was a former president of Burundi, Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, and his former colleagues who are (still) in Burundi. [Word indistinct] because of the mistakes they made. They said that the former ruler of Burundi, Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, backed them and provided the financing to carry out the evil deed. However, this did not happen. The Burundian Armed Forces rejected them; then they were ashamed and surrendered. Currently, they are in the hands of the government.

[Mutana] As you said earlier, here in Bujumbura there are many rumors that the soldiers could have been trying to free one of their colleagues who was arrested in Gatumba [on the border with Zaire, in Bujumbura] and jailed. Others say that they wanted higher salaries, while others say that they were unhappy because they were not allowed to get involved in politics. What do you say about this?

[Mibarurwa] With regard to the Gatumba soldier who was jailed, he was jailed because he had made some mistakes, and because he did not obey military rules. So when a person disobeys military rules, whether he is an officer or a soldier, he is penalized. Some of them asked why he had been jailed, and we gave them the reason. They understood that one is penalized for such a mistake. Concerning salaries, we see no problem. Burundi is poor, and the soldiers are poor just like other Burundians. Therefore, this question should not arise, and they should not ask questions about this. If production improved and money became available, even you yourself would like a raise. If there is improved production and money is available in the government's coffers, we would increase their salaries along with those of other civil servants.

On the subject of participating in politics, we refused to allow them to join parties. We explained this to them and they understood. Again, even elsewhere, soldiers do not join parties so that they may protect institutions elected by citizens.

Once someone is in a party he cannot protect another party properly. One cannot protect [words indistinct] views. The best way is to be apolitical. Second, no soldier was stopped from joining a party. However, whoever wants to join a party must resign from the Army first. If you want to be a deputy, you can run in elections. A soldier can also run for the Presidency of the Republic. A soldier can form his own party—but he must resign from the Army first.

[Mutana] Seeing what was about to happen in our country at the most important period in the political life of our country, what do those of you who lead soldiers think about it?

[Mibarurwa] We think that those who did this wanted our path to democracy, the referendum to be put before citizens on 9 March, not be carried out. They wanted to take power by force after killing and shedding blood. We have been lucky that no blood was shed today. You well understand that they wanted to stop the referendum. They are just like those who attacked us in November: they wanted to stop the referendum, and they wanted to stop citizens from taking part in the referendum.

We therefore think that soldiers and other citizens should be vigilant because there are many spoilers. There are those who attacked us in November, and there are also those from this morning who wanted to interfere with peace and to overthrow the government. For all this, we should remain vigilant because we saw the enemy of democracy in November and this morning. We should ignore them so that they do not take us away from our target.

[Mutana] What will be the soldiers' fate?

[Mibarurwa] They will face the war tribunal. There are laws which deal with such cases and how they should be punished. [end recording]

Governors Meeting With Zairian Counterparts Ends

EA0503120092 Bujumbura Radio-Tel-vision Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 0430 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] A meeting opened in Bujumbura on Monday, 2 March, between the governor of the Zairian South Kivu Region and the Burundian governors of the provinces bordering Zaire—Cibitoke, Bujumbura, and Bururi. At the end of the meeting, the third of its kind, an official communique marking the end of the proceedings was read out. Here are the principal elements:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified announcer] The two delegations held talks which focused on the problems of

security, border trade, contacts between border administrative authorities, and the situation of Zairian nationals living in Burundi. They recommended that competent technical services meet on a regular basis to exchange information on matters of security.

Concerning population movement across the border, they agreed to make nationals of the two countries aware of the need to carry valid travelling documents with them. On the same subject, the Burundian delegation informed the Zairian delegation of the proposal to close some of the border crossings. The Zairian delegation took note of the proposal and promised to provide an appropriate response after analyzing its impact on cross-border traffic. In order to combat criminality in all its forms, the two delegations expressed their wish to relaunch the work of the judicial subcommission as soon as possible.

In order to strengthen the good neighborly relations existing between South Kivu Region and the Burundian border provinces, the two delegations recommended that the local authorities of the border zones and communes maintain and intensify already existing information meetings.

With regard to the situation of Zairian nationals living in Burundi, the two delegations agreed that the question should be examined in detail at the next meeting of the judicial subcommission. [end recording]

Cameroon

More on Ruling Party, Opposition Election Totals

*AB0403140092 Dakar PANA in English 1329 GMT
4 Mar 92*

[Text] Yaounde, 4 Mar (CAMNEWS/PANA)—The ruling Cameroonian People's Democratic Rally had by Tuesday won 89 of the 166 seats in Sunday's multiparty elections, the Ministry of Territorial Administration said in a statement in Yaounde Tuesday. It said that the ruling party showing was followed by the National Union for Democracy and Progress (UNDP) with 51 seats, the Union of Cameroonian Populations (UPC) with 20 seats and the Democratic Movement for the Defence of the Republic (MDR) with six seats.

A total of 1,830,000 out of the registered 3,100,000 registered voters cast their ballots, representing a turnout of 61 percent, the ministry said. In ballots cast, the RDPC collected 789,945 of the 1,570,464 votes, the UNDP collected 55,152 [figure as recieved], the UPC 137,022 and the MDR 84,085. The other parties whose names were not indicated collected less than 10,000 votes. Out of the 57 former members of parliament who stood, 30 had already been defeated by Tuesday while 27 had been elected.

Opposition Leader on Election Boycott, Results

*AB0403144592 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 3 Mar 92*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The decision by Cameroon's opposition Social Democratic Front, the SDF, to boycott last Sunday's general election is now at the center of political debate with almost all the results in. President Biya's ruling CPDM [Cameroon People's Democratic Movement] party has won 93 of the 180 seats in parliament. His party made up for lost ground in the north by doing well in the SDF's traditional stronghold in the northwest, where turnout was low because of the boycott. The closeness of the results suggests that if the SDF had taken part, the ruling party would have lost. On the line to Bamenda, Nick Slather asked John Nii Fru Ndi, the leader of the SDF, if he accepts that the boycott effectively allowed President Biya to remain in power.

[Begin recording] [Ndi] No, we are not allowing Paul Biya into government. We are telling him that he is running an illegal government even when he would have sort of legalized his stay in government. But we found out that he was trying to crook Cameroonians to give him another five-year mandate and that is why we abstained from this election because the electoral was not good.

[Slather] But the point is if you had taken part, you would have won. Your votes, the SDF votes, would have tipped the balance in favor of the opposition surely.

[Ndi] Yes, it is not just a matter of taking part. Let us get the rules of the game defined before we take part. You see, our quarrel was the electoral code which was not good and was not going to guarantee a free and fair election.

[Slather] You say that the electoral code would not have guaranteed a free and fair election, but the opposition did very well. It seems very strange to say that in anyway the elections could have possibly been fixed.

[Ndi] You know, the elections are fixed. We are the people on the field and I am sure that if you interview some of the experts or the foreign observers who came out here to oversee what was going on, they will tell you that there were quite a lot of irregularities involved.

[Slather] But despite these irregularities, the point still remains that had you taken part, had your party taken part, Mr. Biya would not be here now in power.

[Ndi] No, if we had taken part, Mr. Biya would still work his way to get into power because the elections had already been reorganized under the dictates of the French Government because French parliamentarians and senators came out here and told him precisely what to do. So, it was something that had already been fixed and being teleguided by France, and they wanted us just to go in as some sort of puppets to be ridiculed.

[Slather] Mr. John Fru Ndi, let me put it to you that your reason for not taking part in the elections is simply that you are afraid of power when it came around and you just did not grab the opportunity when it arrived.

[Ndi] Afraid of power! Then why then form a party? You form a party because you want to form a government. And if you want to form a government, you want to form a government on the right principles, not to form a government in a fraudulent way, the way the Cameroon present government is doing.

[Slather] Do you regret your decision in any way at all?

[Ndi] No. We want power because we have a program for the Cameroonian people and we want to execute the program when we come to power.

[Slather] You surely cannot execute a program in the opposition, though.

[Ndi] No, you cannot execute a program in the opposition because you always be outvoted. And if you are going in as a strong opposition duly voted by the people that will be okay. But if you are going in as an opposition that is sort of decided upon by another person then that would not be an opposition that you are going in for.

[Slather] Do you in any way regret your decision of boycott?

[Ndi] No, we are all very happy that we did not get ourselves involved. We will continue with our struggle for the democratization of the country, and we will make sure that we get it. [end recording]

Chad

President Deby Meets Visiting Officials 4 Mar

AB0403221492 Ndjamenia Radiodiffusion Nationale Tchadienne in French 1900 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Excerpt] At the Presidential Palace today the president of the Republic, Colonel Idriss Deby, granted an audience to Mr. Jean-Baptiste Delapa Tiemoko, coordinating minister of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel [ICDCS] and Burkina Faso's minister of rural development [titles as heard]. The Burkinabe minister was accompanied by our compatriot Ali Jador Diarthe, executive secretary of ICDCS.

The head of state also received in audience this morning the secretary general of the Economic Community of Central African States, the Zairian Kaza Muyomba Lokabi.

Following the end of the audience, President Blaise Compaore's envoy told the national press the purpose of his visit to Ndjamenia.

[Begin Tiemoko recording] I brought a message from President Blaise Compaore to his brother and friend, Col. Idriss Deby, the president of Chad. So, disclosing

the content of the message remains at the president's own discretion. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Ndjamenia Demilitarization Slated To End 3 Mar

AB0503101592 Ndjamenia Radiodiffusion Nationale Tchadienne in French 1900 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] The last day for the demilitarization of Ndjamenia is today, when the whole exercise should be completed. Indeed, the military units expected to leave the capital should do so before midnight. This was stated by the secretary of state for defense three days ago at a press briefing. Before we take stock of the implementation of the measure with the officials who are directly concerned with it, let us simply recall that this measure follows steps taken at the 18 February extraordinary cabinet meeting aimed at restoring security in our capital, which had been confronted with the resurgence of violence. The Interministerial Committee on Demilitarization, chaired by the prime minister, has been working relentlessly on this issue since that day.

Let us also recall that in line with this mission, the head of state held discussions yesterday with major officials of the Interministerial Committee, including the prime minister. He gave the committee advice on better coordination of the exercise. A commission charged with grouping military men who do not belong to any unit in order to move them out of the capital has been set up. The number of gendarmes has also been increased with the arrival of fresh units from Faya and Abeche in order to reinforce security in the capital. These gendarmes have been made available to the Ministry of Interior and should therefore work as part of those security services already established and operational in the various districts of the capital.

It is also worth mentioning that in line with this demilitarization exercise, the Republican Guard has left the capital for (Oman), Massaget, and (Dounian). The interministerial commission also retained other sites to house the military units expected to leave the capital. At the same meeting, the head of state and commander in chief of the Armed Forces stressed the need to implement the new measures strictly and fully without delay.

Equatorial Guinea

Foreign Minister Benjamin Mba Visits Spain

WA0303152492

For reportage on the visit by Foreign Minister Benjamin Mba to Spain, including reports on his talks with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, please see the Spain section of the 2 March 1992 West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Rwanda

Defense Minister, Opposition Leaders Tour Mutara

EA0403153592 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 0430 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] [Word indistinct] Colonel Augustin Ndindiliyimana, minister of defense in the company of two chiefs of staff, Col. Laurent Serubuga and Col. Pierre [name indistinct] (Rwabatigita), as well as leaders of political opposition parties registered in Rwanda, visited the Mutara warfront yesterday.

The visit was at the request of some opposition party leaders to see for themselves the situation in the warfront areas.

The minister of defense and the two colonels showed the opposition party leaders our Armed Forces' positions at Mutara from Kabarole and Gabiro up to the Kagitumba border post, and then from (Ryabega), Nyagatare, Rwempasha, (Kabagwe), (Rwebare) to (Rukomo). Throughout the tour, political party leaders could see that the Rwandan Armed Forces were in control of our territorial borders with Uganda.

Council of Ministers Examines Amnesty Decree

EAT 03154092 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 1930 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers held its meeting this today under the chairmanship of the prime minister in order to study the following items: A draft of the presidential decree providing for amnesty; the draft of the presidential decree which determines the date of implementation of Law No. A2/1988 of 27 October 1988 instituting preliminary title; and the first volume of the Civil Code.

Regarding the first item, the Council took into account that in accordance with the spirit of amnesty demonstrated by the relevant higher institutions of the Republic in recently adopting two amnesty laws, there is need for a presidential amnesty measure in favor of

convicts who did not benefit from the aforesaid laws. Here is the content of the draft of the presidential decree:

Article 1: The death sentences handed down by the Rwandan courts and which became definitive by 15 December 1991 are commuted to life jail sentences.

Article 2: Life jail sentences handed down by the Rwandan courts and which became definitive by 15 December 1991 are commuted to 20-year jail terms. [passage omitted]

Kibuye Prison Detainees Stage Revolt 2 Mar

EA0403145092 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 1115 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] The revolt at Kibuye prison continues. The detainees have refused to negotiate with the local authorities. Fraterne Kabanza reports from Kibuye on progress in the situation.

[Kabanza] Demonstrations by the 194 detainees at Kibuye Prison are still continuing but at a slower pace as compared to yesterday [2 March]. The detainees however persist in their refusal to negotiate with the local authorities. In effect, they have not budged from their original demand to meet the justice minister, the prefect, as well as representatives of the religious denominations.

It is worth noting that they are demanding [words indistinct] the one they were using broke down [words indistinct].

During the night and even this morning, they did not resume the hooligan acts they had carried out yesterday in their prison, but the security forces are still holding their [word indistinct] because, they say, they do not know what exactly the detainees are after.

Their demands also include improvement in their conditions, such as the provision of blankets, cups, plates and so on, which, according to the management of the prison, were automatically granted, all the more so since with the implementation of the amnesty law their number was halved.

Meanwhile, it is expected that (?improvement) in drinking water and food supplies will help to calm their anger.

Ethiopia

Gurgura Liberation Front Concludes Conference

EA0403151992 Addis Ababa ENA in English
1530 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Dire Dawa, 3 Mar (ENA)—The Gurgura Liberation Front (GLF) concluded its two-day conference here yesterday by drawing up its future programmes and adopting important resolutions touching on what it considers to be key political and socio-economic issues.

Attended by Gurgura clan and spiritual leader Ugaz Gedid Abdullahi Buh as well as by representatives of political and mass organisations and government officials, the front's first gathering was earlier opened by Ato [Mr.] Tesfaye Habiso, secretary of the Council of Representatives.

Ato Tesfaye said the new democratic order opens every avenue for once suppressed and exploited nationality groups to enrich their culture, language and history. He congratulated the Gurgura nationality group in being able to organise this important conclave and called on the GLF to safeguard these gains through the proper exercise of its newly won rights.

The vice-chairman of the GLF, Ato 'Abd-al-'Aziz Ahmad, said on his part that the Gurgura people are direct descendants of the tribe known as "Cush" which inhabited north and north-eastern Africa. He pointed out that the name "Gurgura" itself is a Somali language derivative meaning "nomadic".

Recalling that the Gurgura people began settling in what are now Dire Dawa autonomous and West Harerge administrative regions some 600 years ago, Ato 'Abd-al-'Aziz said the nationality group had suffered great injustice during past regimes. He called on his fellow nationals to now divert all their energy and resources towards socio-economic development by taking full advantage of the democratic rights and freedom bestowed on them.

In the party platform adopted at the end of the conference, the GLF stated that the Issa and Gurgura Liberation Front in no way presents [as received] the Gurgura people and demanded that the name itself be changed forthwith. It also pledged to cooperate with other political organisations in the area in ensuring local peace and stability and appealed to the transitional government for concrete support in changing the tribe's traditionally nomadic way of life.

Kenya

Injuries Reported at Uhuru Park Protest 4 Mar

AB0403125292 Paris AFP in English 1217 GMT
4 Mar 92

[by John Nyaga]

[Excerpt] Nairobi, March 4 (AFP)—Several people were hurt Wednesday as rioting gripped the Kenyan capital and armed paramilitary police clashed with hundreds of stone-throwing demonstrators protesting police brutality.

Police used tear gas and aid truncheons to disperse demonstrators, clubbing a woman and a youth to the ground near the Hilton Hotel, and chasing small groups of protesters through nearby streets.

Casualties were reported Wednesday in different parts of Nairobi as protesters hurled stones and beer bottles at police and laid burning tyres across roads to block police vehicles.

The demonstrators overturned several vehicles and set fire to a lorry, the witnesses said. They were protesting against a security crackdown on Tuesday when dozens of people were injured as police went to a park to evict 25 hunger-strikers demanding the release of political prisoners. Prominent woman activist and academic Wangari Maathai was beaten unconscious.

Tourists strolling in the streets Wednesday fled to the safety of their hotels, which posted guards and locked their doors. Most shops also pulled down their shutters.

By early afternoon, small groups of demonstrators seemed to be preparing for further protests and residents braced for more clashes.

The violence brought business in the city centre to a standstill and was continuing early in the afternoon. [passage omitted]

Moi: Opposition Misleading Strikers

EA0403130092 Nairobi KNA in English 1750 GMT
3 Mar 92

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 3 Mar (KNA)—H.E. [His Excellency] President Daniel arap Moi said today that all citizens must respect the laws of their country and said the government will not tolerate anyone who breaks the laws of Kenya.

President Moi asserted that laws of the land must be respected and stressed that anyone trying to introduce anarchy in the country will be dealt with very firmly by the government. President Moi pointed out that of late opposition parties have begun trends that could easily bring chaos in the country and cited the example of the women who have been camping at Uhuru Park in Nairobi.

He said those women have been misled by the opposition to stage a sit-down at the park calling for the release of prisoners who are in jail for breaking the laws of the land and whose actions threatened the security of wananchi [citizens] and the nation.

President Moi was addressing a public rally in Gatanga in Murang'a after a tour of development projects in the area. The President said the government will at all times

defend the lives, rights and property of the people, adding that the actions of some few people will not be allowed to create chaos in the country. Stressing that peace was vital, President Moi pointed out that it was only in a stable atmosphere that investors can come to the country. He further pointed out that it was only in a peaceful atmosphere that wananchi could contribute to the development of the country.

President Moi reiterated his advice to the opposition parties to put the country's interests before their selfish motives, saying their irresponsible utterances would not augur well for the country. He told them to respect wananchi and the country, noting that their now fast evolving culture of insults to other Kenyans and institutions must come to an end. The president said the country needed leaders who were dedicated to the welfare of wananchi and who were ready to assist in tackling the problems facing them. [passage omitted]

Political Prisoners Also Strike

EA040315292 Nairobi KTN Television in English
 0500 GMT 4 Mar 92

[From the press review]

[Text] Eight of the political prisoners whose mothers are on hunger strike have also gone on strike in the Kamiti Maximum Security Prison cells according to the NATION's page six.

Police Arrest Hunger Strikers

EA0403125292 Nairobi KTN Television in English
 0500 GMT 4 Mar 92

[From the press review]

[Text] On STANDARD page three, armed policewomen late last night moved into Uhuru Park and arrested all the women who have been on hunger strike since Friday [28 February]. The story, also carried by THE NATION in its inside pages, says the strikers were loaded onto vehicles at 10:30 PM and taken to Muthangari police station where they were booked for the night.

Also on the same page, riot police and General Service Unit personnel caused unease among residents of Ngong township yesterday in anticipation of the opening of a branch office for the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy which failed to take place.

Nairobi Center Reported 'Normal'

EA0403205392 Nairobi KTN Television in English
 1800 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Tension which gripped Nairobi city center most of the morning and early afternoon today has subsided, and life in the city has returned to normal. A survey by the KTN team later this evening confirmed a police announcement that incidents of hooliganism which disrupted life in the city had been brought under control.

Police Spokesman Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police Jeremiah Matigaro said unruly mobs had mainly targeted government and parastatal vehicles, but security forces moved swiftly to contain the situation.

Earlier, business came to a standstill in many sections of the city as armed paramilitary police clashed with stone-throwing demonstrators. Armed riot police and General Service [Unit—GSU] personnel used tear-gas and batons to disperse the demonstrators, who scattered along the streets in the lower sections of the city. The demonstrators mounted roadblocks out of burning tires and charity sweepstake stands, preventing traffic from flowing freely through the city. Our reporter Wangui Gachie filed the following story:

[Begin recording] [Gachie] The rag [as heard] that began mid-morning lasted well into the afternoon. There were pillars of smoke from fiery roadblocks; telephone booths and charity sweepstake stands were not spared either. The machakos bus stand was deserted save for this one bus which has broken down. Meanwhile the crowds goaded the GSU and the riot squad who charged in many instances, causing mass stampedes. A city commission vehicle was an easy target, as were the KBS [Kenya Bus Service] buses which were grounded shortly [as heard] to avoid the fracas. This shopkeeper had a sad tale to tell.

[Unidentified Asian shopkeeper] We were just inside and they just rushed over here, and they threw the stones that were here. You can even see the stones lying over here.

[Gachie] As afternoon got under way, the looting spree intensified with many shops being broken into. The situation caused many city residents to vacate their workplaces early, leaving a deserted town. By nightfall calm had returned. Wangui Gachie, KTN, Nairobi. [end recording]

Police headquarters confirmed today that the hunger-strikers at Uhuru Park were taken to their respective homes by police. The women were on a hunger strike demanding the release of political prisoners.

MP Urges Speedy Trials

EA0503134692 Nairobi KTN Television in English
 1800 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] The MP for Molo, Njenga Mungai, today appealed for calm among wananchi [citizens] in Nairobi and the country at large, following skirmishes in the city as police dispersed rioting mobs. In a statement he delivered personally to KTN, the Molo MP said the attorney general should have quickened the prosecution of the political prisoners who sparked the hunger strike by mothers. He wondered why Koigi [wa Wamwere] and his coaccused have had to spend 18 months in remand before their cases can be heard and be determined. Mungai at the same time appealed to President Moi in his characteristic sympathy to look into the matter with a view to extending his hand of mercy.

Mungai, who hails from the same Nakuru district as the mothers on hunger strike, said the police commissioner, Philip Kilonzo, should reveal where the striking mothers arrested by police were taken. Mungai urged the attorney general to give a report of the file he was reported as saying he would study, arguing that the act of mothers stripping in public is a curse that should not be dismissed lightly.

German Envoy Notes 'Inappropriate' Use of Force

EA0403184392 Nairobi KTN Television in English
1600 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Later this afternoon, the German Government also issued a statement on the current political situation in Kenya. German Ambassador Berndt Mutzelberg said his government had been saddened by the inappropriate use of force against mothers who were staging a peaceful hunger strike for the release of their sons and relatives imprisoned for charges of a political nature.

The German envoy said his government's other area of concern was the growing obstacle in the opposition parties faced in organizing themselves, establishing offices, holding rallies, and participating on an equal footing in the political process leading to elections [sentence as received]. The ambassador said the international community was losing confidence in the pledge by the Kenyan authorities to hold free and fair elections.

Dailies on Need To Curtail 'Police Brutality'

EA0503135892 Nairobi KTN Television in English
0345 GMT 5 Mar 92

[From the press review]

[Text] THE STANDARD and the DAILY NATION's editorials this morning address one similar subject: The need to curtail police brutality. In its editorial, THE STANDARD, while referring to a government minister who was reported as saying that police would use all force to crush members of the opposition parties, wonders whether Kenya has really entered multiparty democracy. The editor cites several recent events of police brutality, denial of licenses to the Democratic Party to hold public rallies, intimidation, and the physical attacks on leaders and members of the opposition parties as pointers to the fact that genuine multipartism may not have been reached in the country.

The editor concludes by saying that what Kenya needed was simple humanistic decent conduct by the police and to acknowledge that the foundation of a democratic society is based on freedom of expression and freedom of assembly. The DAILY NATION's editorial, on the other hand, says the police action was unnecessary.

Like the NATION and THE STANDARD the KENYA TIMES devotes several of its news pages to yesterday's skirmishes in the city. In a front-page story, the TIMES reports CPK [Church Province of Kenya] clergyman,

Joseph Gichunge, denouncing as immoral and shameful Tuesday's [3 March] stripping by mothers of prisoners at Uhuru Park. Reverend Gichunge said in a statement that it was shameful and immoral for old women to expose their bodies in order to force the law to work to their wishes. The women's action was also condemned by the chairman of the Maendeleo ya Wanawake [Kenya African National Union affiliated women's organization] Wilkista Onsando, who dismissed the stripping as a shame and an embarrassment.

'Rioting' FORD Youths Involved in Incidents

EA0403183692 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting
Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Rioting youths flashing the opposition FORD's [Forum for the Restoration of Democracy] two-finger salute marched through the streets of Nairobi this morning, stoning cars and shop windows.

The riot police were called to disperse the youths who claimed that they were demonstrating so as to express their solidarity and sympathy with the women who had gone on a hunger strike at Uhuru Park demanding the release of political prisoners. Police had to use tear gas canisters to disperse the youths who had erected barricades using telephone booths and Kenya charity sweep-stake kiosks. The riot brought business along Nairobi's river road and its environs to a standstill as many businessmen were forced to close their businesses for fear of looting.

Motorists driving into the city center from Eastlands had to use alternative routes as rioters [word indistinct] pelted their vehicles with stones, while the Kenya bus services had to temporarily halt their services to and from the city center as their buses became targets of stone-throwing.

[In addition, Nairobi KTN Television in English at 1600 GMT on 4 March adds that in central Nairobi, "Riot police and GSU [General Service Unit] personnel fired canisters of tear gas and shot in the air to disperse the crowds that had gathered along the roadsides running in panic at any move by the GSU towards them. Several people were clubbed and many more sustained injuries during the day-long skirmishes. Meanwhile, within the cordoned-off areas, east of Tom Mboya Street, angry protesters took the opportunity to loot the shops, dry-cleaning premises along River Road. In the melee, the GSU personnel and riot police attempting to disperse groups of protesters, those who successfully looted found themselves having to fight off competition [sentence as heard]. KTN's reporter Catherine Openda was injured by GSU personnel. The situation is now back to normal."]

[Paris AFP in English in a Nairobi-dated report by David Chazan at 1821 GMT on 4 March also adds: "Police spokesman Jeremiah Matigaro said 26 youths had been arrested as hundreds of stone-throwing demonstrators clashed with paramilitary forces in full

combat gear carrying automatic rifles. Leaders of the biggest opposition party, the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy, condemned 'barbarism and brutality' by the police. They called for a general strike on April 2 and 3 to press demands for 'the release of political prisoners' and to 'rid Kenya of injustice.' In a press statement, the forum said the violence was 'comparable with force being used in South Africa by the apartheid police.'"

[AFP also reports: "By early evening the demonstrators had scattered, but police were still on the streets and residents feared more clashes overnight. Police clubbed a woman and a youth to the ground near the Hilton Hotel, sending terrified tourists scurrying for safety into the lobby, witnesses said."]

Parliament To Debate Bill Amending Constitution

*EA0403150092 Nairobi KTN Television in English
1800 GMT 3 Mar 92*

[Text] The office of the vice president will be abolished after amendment to the Constitution is passed by parliament. The abolition of the office of the vice president is contained in a bill published in a Kenya Gazette supplement signed by attorney general Amos Wako. The bill also provides for the appointment of prime minister and deputy prime minister.

The amendment of the Constitution stipulates that the president shall be elected by direct universal and equal suffrage and provides for the limitation of his term of office to two terms of five years each.

According to the bill, the prime minister, who will be appointed by the president, will be head of government and leader of government business in parliament.

Other major amendments to the Constitution include the repealing of the section which gave the president powers to make regulations, especially for Northeastern Province and contiguous districts.

The functions of the electoral commissioner have been increased to include the registration of voters, directing and supervising the presidential, National Assembly, and local elections, and conducting of referenda.

'Mysterious Fire' at Attorney General's Office

*AB0503123092 Nairobi KTN Television in English
1000 GMT 5 Mar 92*

[Text] A large number of secret and confidential files were destroyed by a mysterious fire in a secret registry in the attorney general's [AG] chambers this morning. The registry is situated on the fourth floor. The floor also houses the attorney general, Amos Wako's office. A source told KTN that the fire started at about 0400 in the morning and razed to the ground most, if not all the documents which had been kept in the room.

When the KTN film crew arrived at the attorney general's office at about 0915 today they found top police

officers led by the commissioner of police, Philip Kilonzo, at the scene of the fire.

A close source in the AG's chambers said the police were dusting the room for finger prints and would not allow anybody to go up. Later Kilonzo said investigations into the cause of the fire had started. He said a lot of damage had been done, and he said he would release some information later.

Somalia

USC Chairman Signs Formal Cease-Fire Agreement

*EA0403205792 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali
1815 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Text] On 3 March Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, the chairman of the United Somali Congress [USC] signed a formal cease-fire agreement with Mr. James Jonah, the UN special envoy, and representatives of the OAU, the Arab League and the Islamic Conference Organization.

During the signing ceremonies, Mr. Aidid and Mr. Jonah jointly raised several matters pertaining to the cease-fire. Both men held talks and agreed that a civilian team of military experts should be sent to Mogadishu to advise on the cease-fire.

In his brief speech for the occasion, Mr. James Jonah said the cease-fire should be implemented immediately to enable Somalia to receive international aid.

Pledges Respect for Cease-Fire

*EA0403213592 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali
1700 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Text] The attainment of a cease-fire in Somalia, particularly in Benadir region [Mogadishu], fills the Somali people with happiness. This was said by United Somali Congress [USC] Chairman Mohamed Farah Aidid when he addressed the Somali people via the media on the occasion of the cease-fire [signing].

The chairman said that the USC and its supporters pledged to respect the cease-fire, saying that it will be implemented in places under the control of the organization. The chairman went on to say that a technical committee and a non-military team would soon arrive to advise on military matters. He said the cease-fire would be implemented by all the country's liberation organizations, the majority of which had sent their representatives to Mogadishu to participate in its implementation. He said it was our hope that the remaining organizations would immediately participate in implementing the cease-fire.

The USC chairman expressed his profound gratitude to the countries that had participated in the efforts being made to attain a cease-fire in Mogadishu. He particularly thanked UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Ghali,

the OAU, the Arab League, and the Islamic Conference Organization for playing a great role in resolving these issues.

He appealed to those countries which had previously made aid pledges to send in urgent humanitarian aid for the Somali people.

Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid congratulated the USC fighters who endured hardship to defend the Somali people's dignity and respect. He sent his condolences to those who lost their lives and property during the armed struggle against blood-sucking Siad Barre and the self-appointed [Manifesto] Group. [sentence as heard]

Finally, he expressed his hope that the cease-fire, God willing, will be implemented. He blessed the Somali people that in this holy month of Ramadan [words indistinct].

[In the same newscast, Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu adds: "A statement released by the information secretary of the USC Executive Committee has said that the Manifesto Group [of 1990] had violated the UN-brokered cease-fire agreement which was signed yesterday. The statement added that yesterday at 0400, a ship carrying UN rations and medicine was scared away from Mogadishu port by heavy shelling from northeast Mogadishu, where the Manifesto Group is still hiding. The statement further added that this morning the Manifesto Group's loyal rebel soldiers had carried out unprovoked attacks against the old Mogadishu port and S.S. Parliament [as heard], where they caused heavy losses, resulting in killing and injuring many civilians. Finally, the statement made it clear to the Somali people and the world that the Manifesto Group had broken the UN-organized cease-fire agreement and that this meant the Manifesto Group has disregarded international rules."]

Mogadishu 'Calm'; 'Few Shells'

*AB0503115492 Paris AFP in English 1014 GMT
5 Mar 92*

[Text] Mogadishu, March 5 (AFP)—Somalia's war-shattered capital Mogadishu was calm Thursday, two days after the two warring factions signed a U.N.-brokered ceasefire deal and a day after the beginning of the Moslem fast Ramadan.

"There have been a few shells here and there, and some small arms fire, but that was expected as many of the armed people in Mogadishu are not controlled by either side," said a U.N. official in radio contact with Somalia.

He suggested that the fighting may also have died down because of the start of Ramadan, an Islamic fast when fighting is theoretically forbidden.

On Tuesday Mogadishu's two warlords, interim President Ali Mahdi Mohamed and General Mohamed Farah Aidid, signed a ceasefire agreement negotiated by the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity, the Arab League and the Islamic Conference.

The agreement called for an immediate ceasefire. But aid workers familiar with the clan-based feuding which has killed more than 5,000 people and wounded up to 25,000 others in Mogadishu in the past three-and-a-half months expected at best a gradual lessening in the fighting.

A U.N.-chartered ship carrying 648 tonnes of wheat to the hungry capital, where hundreds of thousands of people desperately need food aid, was due to unload in Mogadishu port Thursday, but U.N. officials were awaiting confirmation that it had docked.

Relief agencies have stopped distributing food in Mogadishu because it is too dangerous. "A lot of the gunbattles are people squabbling over food," said an aid worker who requested anonymity. "Everyone's got a gun, and most people are hungry."

UN Relief Shipment Prevented

*AB0503153292 Paris AFP in English 1519 GMT
5 Mar 92*

[Text] Nairobi, March 5 (AFP)—Shelling in Somalia's war-torn capital Thursday despite a cease-fire agreement prevented a U.N. ship from bringing Mogadishu its first big consignment of food aid in months, a U.N. official said.

Leaders of Mogadishu's two warring factions signed a ceasefire agreement Tuesday [3 March] after what U.N. special envoy to Somalia James Jonah described as "tough and hard" negotiations mediated by the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity, the Arab League and the Islamic Conference.

Some 10 previous ceasefires were all instantly violated, but the devastated city was relatively calm for nearly two days after the new truce was agreed, relief officials in radio contact with Mogadishu said.

A U.N.-chartered ship carrying 648 tonnes of wheat was scheduled to dock in Mogadishu Thursday, but was forced to turn back to the Kenyan port of Mombasa by shelling nearby.

Russian Delegation Arrives for Trade Conference

*MB0403161492 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in Afrikaans
1400 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Text] A Russian delegation has arrived in South Africa to strengthen trade links between the two countries.

The delegation includes representatives of the international company (Morvel); the (Klimov) aircraft company; and senior Air Force officers.

The delegation will attend a 2-day trade conference in Cape Town, at which civil aviation projects, cargo transport, and a market for Russian glass in South Africa will be discussed.

De Klerk on Comprehensive Strategy Against Crime

*MB0403201992 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1746 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[SAPA PR wire service issued by the SA [South African] Communication Service on 4 March: "Press Statement by State President F. W. de Klerk"]

[Text] Press Statement by State President F. W. de Klerk—It is the government's earnest intention to combat the unacceptably high level of crime effectively. Far-reaching steps have in the past been taken in this regard. These include the drastic increase in both manpower and funding of the South African Police. In addition, several special actions are also undertaken countrywide from time to time on a regional basis.

The government is now also ready to announce, in addition to the above, a comprehensive strategy aimed at the prevention of crime.

The minister of law and order will do so at a press conference tomorrow, 5 March, 1992.

Important goals to be achieved through this plan include the following:

- an increased, continuously visible presence of the police in public;
- greater police mobility, and
- extensive application of modern technology.

I believe that, with the cooperation of the public, this initiative will make a real contribution to the combating of the present wave of crime, and I repeat the assurance that no stone will be left unturned to achieve this goal.

Issued by the Office of the State President Cape Town 4 March 1992

Law, Order Minister Announces Anticrime Plan

*MB0503121092 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
1100 GMT 5 Mar 92*

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr. Hernus Kriel, has announced the most comprehensive anti-crime

strategy yet launched by the South African Police. The multimillion rand plan announced at a news conference in Cape Town provides for the recruitment of 11,000 police assistants, a thousand of whom have been recruited. A further 3,500 assistants will be recruited this year. Mr. Kriel said that a sum of more than 52 million rands had been allocated for the immediate construction of an additional 80 satellite police stations, 400 contact points and 50 mobile, large charge offices.

Mr. Kriel also announced the formation of a new semi-autonomous unit that would be responsible primarily for riot control. The unit, to be called the Internal Stability Division, will consist initially of 5,600 members and be deployed in high unrest areas. It's envisaged that the force will be 17,000 strong. The existing air wing and reservist force of the South African Police will also be strengthened.

The crime combating and investigation section will be enlarged next year and a more effective crime information network is to be established. Mr. Kriel said it had been decided in principle that the defense force, in a supporting role, would assist the police with crime prevention. He said members of commando units, as part of their military obligations, would be involved more closely in patrolling of rural areas. The intention was to involve farming communities in crime prevention strategies in their areas. He called on the business community to participate in the existing business watch system and said the neighborhood watch system should be extended.

Mr. Kriel said the safety of security force members was a priority and that all available bullet-proof jackets were being bought.

Ciskei Delegation Signs National Peace Accord

*MB0503071992 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2144 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 4 SAPA—The embattled Ciskei military government signed the National Peace Accord on Wednesday [4 March], a day after pulling out of a conflict resolution committee amid a row with the African National Congress [ANC]. "A highly positive note of today's meeting of the National Peace Committee [NPC] was the signing of the peace accord by a high-powered delegation from the Ciskei," the committee said in a statement.

The chairman of the Ciskei council of ministers, Mr. N. Mogcantsi, signed the 6-months-old peace accord that has faced a serious test in recent weeks due to a resurgence in violence. "I believe that the mere fact that people from opposite ends of the political spectrum are

talking to each other has the effect, to some degree at least, of reducing violence," Dr Antonie Gildenhuys, chairman of the Peace Secretariat, told the meeting.

Ciskeian strongman Brig Oupa Gqozo is scheduled to meet senior officials of the ANC to discuss an alleged plot to topple his government by the ANC's border region. It is believed the ANC will send international affairs head Thabo Mbeki, SACP [South African Communist Party] national Chairman Joe Slovo and veteran ANC activists Raymond Mhlaba and Govan Mbeki.

Meanwhile, NPC Chairman John Hall told the meeting on Wednesday that lack of funds was hindering progress by the sub-committee for socio-economic reconstruction. He said development agencies would be approached for financial aid for projects in the most needy regions.

Signatories to the accord hailed the work of the Peace Secretariat and the Goldstone Commission of Inquiry. The commission tabled a comprehensive report on inquiries it has conducted so far.

Also at the meeting, the Boy Scouts of South Africa signed the peace accord. A report from the publicity and communications sub-committee stressed the urgency of the distribution at grassroots level of copies of the simplified version of the peace accord.

ANC, DP Urged To 'Back Off' From Ciskei

*MB0503113292 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2028 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Text] East London Mar 4 SAPA—The National Party [NP] on Wednesday [4 March] warned the Democratic Party [DP] and the African National Congress [ANC] to back off from the Ciskei, charging tensions in the homeland were costing "yes" votes in the upcoming referendum. The NP MP for East London North, Mr Calle Badenhorst, said at a press conference in East London on Wednesday it was not advisable for the NP or DP to get involved in Ciskei problems or to go against the National Peace Accord. "The fight in the referendum is much bigger than the fight in Ciskei," warned Mr Billy Nel, NP MP for East London City.

He claimed the storm over the ANC campaign to oust Brig Gqozo had blackened this region's image. A multi-million rand international investment which had been "99 per cent" certain for the Berlin area had been put on ice because of the "squabble" between the ANC and the Ciskei, he said. He declined to give further details of the reported investment.

The nominated DP MP, Mr Andre de Wet, who has been closely involved in Ciskei developments, defended the DP's position. "The DP stands for democracy, freedom of association and freedom of political activity," he said, adding it would continue to stand by those principles. But Mr Nel said political players in the region should

distance themselves from the situation as the only people benefiting were "those campaigning for a no vote".

Furthermore, a fear of violence was swinging many, particularly elderly people, towards a "no" vote, Mr Badenhorst added. Mr de Wet said he would prefer not to comment on these perceptions.

He again urged the Ciskei government to take a lesson from President F W de Klerk and prove the political support it claimed.

The ANC's border liaison officer, Miss Marion Sparg, said the campaign would continue as the ANC believed an interim administration was the only way to achieve lasting peace. She said the Ciskei's problems could not be wished away and investors could not be fooled that no problems existed. By addressing these problems a climate conducive to stable investment would be created.

ANCYL Calls for Referendum on Reincorporation

*MB0403202092 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1945 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Text] Umtata Mar 4 SAPA—The Transkei region of the African National Congress Youth League [ANCYL] on Wednesday called on Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope to hold a referendum to test the people's view on reincorporation into South Africa.

The ANCYL's Transkei regional chairman, Mr Mahlbandile Qwase, said President Mangope did not enjoy the support of the Bophuthatswana people.

He added that it was a right and not a privilege for the Bophuthatswana people to be given a chance to decide their future.

The Transkei ANCYL would always regard Bophuthatswana people as South Africans, Mr Qwase said.

The question of the reincorporation of the TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] states is being examined by a working group of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa).

COSATU, SACP Meet 4 Mar, Issue Communique

*MB0403152792 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1341 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[SAPA PR wire service issued by COSATU (Congress of South African Trade Unions) on 4 March: "Budget Day - The People's Referendum"]

[Text] Budget Day—The People's Referendum—A high-level, bilateral meeting of COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] and SACP [South African Communist Party] leaders was held today. Among those present were SACP chairperson, Joe Slovo, SACP General Secretary Chris Hani, and COSATU vice president, Chris Dlamini. The meeting committed itself to ensuring

that there will be wide-scale mass action in city centres, townships, industrial and rural areas on March 18, budget day. March 18 will [be] the people's referendum.

Together with our allies we will be focussing on
—VAT [Value Added Tax] and escalating food prices;
—the government's unilateral restructuring of the economy, including privatisation, and its refusal to participate in an economic negotiations forum;
—continuing racial disparities in pensions;
—our demand for the immediate installation of a representative interim government.

We call on all South Africans to support these actions on March 18, to ensure that De Klerk does not ride on the wave of the referendum to push through a harsh and anti-democratic economic and political agenda to the detriment of the poor.

Progress at Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] was carefully assessed. Both delegations committed themselves to ensuring that the new constitution will pave the way for the political, social and economic emancipation of all South Africans, most especially the working majority.

The meeting reaffirmed that the De Klerk regime, which continues to exercise state power contrary to the interests of the people, remains the main enemy. Nevertheless it was noted that the right-wing poses a serious threat to the process of negotiation, a process brought about by mass struggle.

While advising white democrats to vote in defence of the negotiations process, we reaffirmed our condemnation of the racist referendum. The millions of rand in taxpayers' money that De Klerk is spending on this whites-only affair could have been spent on housing, pensions and other basic necessities.

All of this underlines the urgency of ridding ourselves, once and for all, of this illegitimate minority regime.

De Beer Commends ANC Support for 'Yes' Vote

*MB0403182892 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1727 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Text] Pietermaritzburg Mar 4 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] support for a yes vote in a racial referendum was to be commended as an act of considerable statesmanship, Democratic Party [DP] leader Dr Zach de Beer said on Wednesday.

Speaking at a DP function in the City Hall here, and later at the chamber of business banquet, he said that this referendum was the briefest as well as the most important campaign in the history of South Africa.

"The whole future of South Africa is at stake. I must congratulate and thank the ANC for their thoroughly statesman-like attitude."

"I dispute the contention that Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] is going too fast. What it has done is settle down quickly into a pattern of work: But there is a vast amount of difficult detail that must still be dealt with in many months of hard work."

Codesa, which represented the road to a new South Africa, would be destroyed by a no vote.

History would give the Codesa Declaration of Intent the same stature as the US Declaration of Independence.

"Don't vote no unless you want to kill Codesa."

Conservative Party [CP] leader Dr Andries Treurnicht, who was "as slippery as soap in a bath", should state where his "whitey-stan" was and what it meant.

"When he talks of negotiation he means that he will talk to black leaders about where the borders will be, he will negotiate the balkanisation of South Africa, and there will be no black leaders who will be prepared to talk to him."

"Oh no, not for nothing has he the reputation of being the trickiest politician in the country. You see, he wants the racist bigots who form the hard core support to think that the whitey-stan is everything outside the homelands."

If a no vote did not mean a return to racist domination then the CP should immediately bring forward a map of partitioned South Africa, Dr de Beer said.

The contention of the CP/AWB [Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging; Afrikaner Resistance Movement]/HNP [Herstigste Nasionale Party; Reformed National Party] alliance that they would be able to solve the problems of poverty, crime and other problems was a "bare-faced untruth" as their policies will lead to "disinvestment, capital flight, loss of economic confidence, rising unemployment, and still more crime.

"We must all understand that the present miseries are the price we are paying for 40 years of apartheid."

Natal Midlands Chairman Mr Mike Tarr said that people should be aware that a verlig [enlightened] vote in Natal could cancel out a verkramp [reactionary] one elsewhere in the country and that all should cast their votes: "What a great feeling that your vote could be the one that cancels out the vote of Andries Treurnicht."

De Beer Rejects Possibility of NP-DP Alliance

*MB0403130692 Umtata Capital Radio in English
11 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Text] The Democratic Party [DP] has rejected the possibility of an alliance with the National Party [NP]. DP leader Zach de Beer says his party is only siding with the NP to promote a yes vote at this month's white referendum. De Beer says an alliance with the NP won't take place even in the event of a yes majority in the referendum.

[Begin De Beer recording] Exactly what it would have been if there had been no referendum, there are no plans at all for us and the National Party to form a permanent alliance or coalition [sentence as heard]. We have a common objective at the moment, and we are working together for that objective. But we are highly critical of the National Party in many matters, and I think they are of us also. [end recording]

AWB Denies Split With CP on Referendum

MB0403143192 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1209 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Durban March 4 SAPA—The Conservative Party [CP] campaign for a no vote in the referendum was in direct conflict with the international community's desires for a negotiated settlement, Democratic Party [DP] leader Dr Zach de Beer said on Wednesday [4 March].

SABC radio news reported that at a media briefing in Durban, Dr de Beer warned a CP victory in the referendum would result in the international isolation of South Africa, internal disruption and civil war.

He said he was confident the DP's supporters were behind its decision to work with the National Party in the referendum.

Meanwhile, commanding officer of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement—AWB] in southern Natal, Mr Nic Fourie, has disputed claims that there was a split between the CP and the AWB over their campaigns for a no vote.

He said he would be sharing platforms with the CP in Natal in support of the right wing alliance campaign.

AWB-HNP-CP Leaders Slam de Klerk's Policies

MB0503113692 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2054 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Potgietersrus March 4 SAPA—Whites should vote no in the referendum because President F W de Klerk should not remain the leader of a nation he had betrayed, Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [AWB—Afrikaner Resistance Movement] leader Mr Eugene Terreblanche said on Wednesday [4 March] night. He was one of a triumvirate of rightwing speakers who addressed 2,000 people on a rugby field at Potgietersrus. The other two were Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP] leader Mr Jaap Marais and Conservative Party [CP] MP for Potgietersrus, Mr Schalk Pienaar.

Mr Terreblanche said whites had no reason to hand themselves over to the political thugs of Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa], most of whom had not been elected as the leaders of any nation. He said the newfound rightwing unity agreement between the AWB, CP and HNP meant that whites could put on a united fight in a referendum, an election, and for the future of their country.

"If the ANC [African National Congress] takes our country, we will take it back with violence," Mr Terreblanche concluded with his usual last line.

Mr Marais said if rightwingers came to power they should reintroduce a state of emergency and incarcerate black leaders and agitators. Playing to the rural audience, he said nothing short of a total debt write-off would save debt-ridden farmers. Mr Marais said each step President de Klerk took was aimed at outwitting whites.

Local MP Mr Pienaar said President de Klerk would be expelled from government even in the event of a yes result, because the African National Congress would take over. "The National Party and the ANC are like two spiders which mated. Now the ANC, the female spider, is devouring the NP."

South African, Namibian Press Review for 5 Mar

MB0503122592

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

President's Meetings With Citizens Welcome—"What a remarkable performance the State President is putting on in the FW Roadshow," begins the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 4 March. President De Klerk is shaking hands with students, kissing babies, and addressing up to seven meetings a day. "This is American-style politicking with a vengeance. It might seem strange to a people unaccustomed to having a leader do this, but we prefer it to having the State President cut off from ordinary folk by the demands of his high office."

THE STAR

English Community To Hold Decisive Votes in Referendum—"Fear of a sizeable number of voters being immobilised by apathy is not unfounded," notes Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 5 March in a page 20 editorial. "So far the campaign for an affirmative vote has been far too negative: the electorate has, in large measure, been urged to vote against the Conservatives rather than for a negotiated settlement. They are threatened too much with the consequences of a CP [Conservative Party] victory including, to quote a National Party [NP] advertisement, the spectre of South Africa becoming another 'Beirut'; they are not being persuaded sufficiently to vote for a settlement and the hope of a just society which that holds." "With Afrikanerdom split into two hostile camps, a special responsibility rests on the English-speaking community. They hold the balance of power between Mr De Klerk and Dr Treurnicht, between advance to the future and retreat to the past. For that reason they will be targeted as never before in the days ahead."

CP Effectively Plays on Fears of Rural Afrikaners—Patrick Laurence, political correspondent writes on the same page the CP leader Andries Treurnicht "is a superb

orator who knows his Afrikaner people well. President F.W. de Klerk and his supporters underestimate him at their peril." Treurnicht may not impress "Afrikaner yuppies" but he knows "how to play on the fears, resentments and hopes of rural Afrikaners and their wage-earning and even salaried compatriots in the towns and cities." Laurence believes Treurnicht's "set" referendum speech is "devastatingly effective." "Perhaps the most important component is his projection of Mr De Klerk as an appeaser who, in his eagerness to please the world and to gratify the ANC [African National Congress] and SA [South African] Communist Party, has turned his back on his own people." "Dealing with the threat of a bloodbath, Dr Treurnicht wants to know who will start it. The ANC? If so, he demands to know, will Mr De Klerk side with his ANC ally against his own people?" In his speech Treurnicht also cites statistics for violent crimes, "specifically mentioning the murder of elderly whites and the assassination of policemen, to show South Africa has become a much more violent society since Mr De Klerk took over." Finally, Treurnicht "offers the reassurance that the CP's policy of a commonwealth of politically independent but economically interdependent states is an idea whose time has come."

BUSINESS DAY

Voters in 'Somber' Mood—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 5 March in a page 8 editorial states that the mood of the voter appears to be "a sombre one." "Interviews so far have been in the country areas, where whites seem unhappy, frustrated, fearful and angry. They would like nothing better than a return to the 'good old days' of the '60s and '70s, when they ruled and blacks knew their place; when jobs were safe, and there were no garden walls and security alarms." "There has been hardly a mention of correcting past wrongs, or of creating a 'just society', even among those who say they will vote 'yes'." "The signal to those campaigning for a 'yes' vote seems to be that they are being too negative. Their message is about the disastrous consequences of a 'no' vote, not the rewards for voting 'yes'. The future may be uncertain, but there are plenty of examples already of the benefits of reform. Let's hear more about them between now and referendum day."

SOWETAN

CP Remains 'Racist Organization'—"It is quite arresting to hear CP leader Andries Treurnicht's high sophistry by striving to make his ox-wagon, racist organisation look decent and democratic," declares a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 5 March. Treurnicht says the CP "does not hate other races but loves the Afrikaner more. At the same time the same party will have to go back to the evil days of apartheid if it is going to serve the interests and wishes of Afrikaners it professes to love. There are some of us who prefer the straightforward racism of the past to the misplaced pseudo-liberalism that is tripping from the tongue of a politician desperately looking to win votes by sounding non-racist, decent and respectable."

CAPE TIMES

Homelands Play 'Obstructive' Role in Codesa—"The homelands are saddled with governments which have no demonstrable support base and little legitimacy, yet they are playing a major and often obstructive role within Codesa," notes Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 2 March in a page 8 editorial. "Worse still, their continued existence is supported by the NP government with legalistic and bureaucratic arguments. The government would do better to initiate decisive action to bring these territories back into South Africa, saving millions for long-suffering taxpayers and ending a constitutional farce."

CP-AWB Common Front—Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 3 March in a page 6 editorial says the CP's decision to "form a common front" with the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, AWB, in the referendum "is at last an honest acknowledgment of its close links with the neo-nazis who strut round in jackboots and black balaclavas. The relationship between the two bodies has for long been one of cordiality on the part of the AWB, but simpering denial by leading CP spokesmen of anything more than a common goal. The CP has never, however, officially condemned either the AWB's war rhetoric or its racist violence. Now the two bodies can openly be seen as partners."

WINDHOEK ADVERTISER

Editorial on Head of State's 'Wasteful Excursions'—"It is outrageous that our Head of State seems to have fallen in love with high altitude intercontinental jet flights," states a page 36 editorial in Windhoek WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English on 29 February. "The trip to India is a wasteful excursion. The one to Teheran even more so. And then the Seychelles is on the itinerary too. The ceremonies, the workshops and the seminars which are in essence occasions for the cursed cocktail party and the invariable dinner parties back home, join hands with these wasteful habits. Link to that the waste caused by a hamfisted administration. Slowly, very slowly the country's populace is awakening to an entering a period of disenchantment." "We have come to believe that perhaps the processes of decay are an indirect blessing which will hasten the inevitable collapse. In its wake will come those forces which will restructure the stricken land."

* Irish Delegation Reports on Trade Mission

92AF0409G Johannesburg ENGINEERING NEWS
in English 31 Jan 92 p 9

[Article by Julia Murphy]

[Text] Fifteen Northern Irish companies have just completed their first trade mission to South Africa since the relaxation of trade sanctions.

The mission, which was organised by the Industrial Development Board for Northern Ireland (IDB) called at Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

"The pace of change is quickening in South Africa and Northern Ireland exporters aim to be represented in this market of enormous and expanding potential," said deputy chief executive of the IDB David Watkins.

Watkins, who led the mission, says Northern Ireland companies are keen to explore the potential to do business in South Africa and to develop business contacts.

"The current investment programme to develop South African infrastructure and telecommunications means opportunities for trade are extensive and growing."

"Some of our companies have had past trading links with South African companies and we are looking forward to renewing old contacts and establishing new ones," said Watkins.

The companies represented were from a wide range of industrial sectors ranging from the long-established linen and engineering industries, to the new and expanding sectors of pharmaceuticals, computer software and consumer products.

The Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry will also be taking part in the mission to develop its links with similar bodies in South Africa.

Collectively the companies on the mission employ almost 3,000 people and have an annual turnover in excess of R[ands]500 million, over a third of which is generated by exports.

* Polish Bankers' Visit Promotes Investments

92AF0409E Johannesburg *ENGINEERING NEWS*
in English 31 Jan 92 p 7

[Article by Brian Schmidt]

[Text] Huge Polish investment could come South Africa's way after leading Polish banks expressed keen interest in major proposed industrial projects in this country.

Leading a delegation of eight Polish bankers as guests of Chubb Lock and Safe, Maciej Dobrzyniecki told THE *ENGINEERING NEWS* that the group received proposals from, among other leading South African industrialists, Highveld Steel chairman Leslie Boyd.

"The projects we spoke about are very big as it will not make sense for leading Polish banks to get involved in anything which cannot promise high returns. With trade sanctions against South Africa being dropped we view this region, including the rest of southern Africa as high on 'the investment list' because of the development possibilities.

"Furthermore, the possibility exists that some of these banks will open branches in South Africa, but we will

start with placing representatives in South Africa and we hope to attract representatives from South African banks to Poland," he said.

* French Government Backing Management Training

92AF0409F Johannesburg *ENGINEERING NEWS*
in English 31 Jan 92 p 7

[Text] The Joint Management Development Programme, aimed at producing competent middle managers to fill a gap in the country's skills, has received increased backing from the French Government because of its successes.

Three of Europe's business schools, through the influential Paris Chamber of Commerce, are closely involved with the programme, now in its seventh year.

The programme is a joint venture of the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Urban Foundation, the Black Management Forum, the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industries (NAFCOC) and more than 50 leading South African organisations.

* General Defends Military Actions in North

92AF0409H Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English
17 Jan 92 p 3

[Article by Dirk Nel]

[Text] Pietersburg—Major-General Minnaar Fourie of the defence force's Far North command yesterday strongly defended the actions of military units in the area.

Speaking during a medal parade to mark the eighth anniversary of Far North Command, he condemned what he described as "distortions of the facts by radicals," in connection with defence force activities.

The general's comments came after wide media publicity of a shooting incident, involving defence force members, which resulted in the death of a Lebowa man George Mushi, two weeks ago.

After the incident, Lebowa Chief Minister Nelson Ramodike said the presence of the SADF [South African Defense Force] in Lebowa should be reviewed.

"We know our job and will not allow pressure from radical quarters to deter us from our duty of protecting the sovereignty of the country," General Fourie said.

At yesterday's parade General Fourie commended 116 Battalion, a Messina-based unit comprising black soldiers, on being voted the fittest unit in the SA [Republic of South Africa] Army.

The battalion, under the command of Captain Deon Kruger, provided the guard of honour during the parade.

Major F.B. van Eyk received the gold medal for 30 years' faithful service in the defence force. Twenty-three other officers received awards for meritorious service.

- A planned mass protest against the continued presence of the SA Defence Force in Lebowa flopped yesterday when only 150 people turned up at the venue in Moletlane village, near Zebediela.

An eyewitness told THE STAR that the people taking part in the demonstration arrived at about 9:30 a.m. and gathered opposite the defence force base in the village.

About half an hour later a vehicle arrived with placards, and later a further supply was handed to the protesters.

Lebowa police watched the proceedings from a distance.

*** SADF Reportedly Aided Labor Party Elections**

92AF0444A Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL
in English 7-13 Feb 92 p 7

[Article by Gaye Davis and Drew Forrest]

[Text] The South African Defence Force [SADF] helped the Labor Party [LP] fight and win three by-elections, as part of its secret countrywide drive to promote "moderate" political organizations.

Hard information that a department of military intelligence (DMI) front provided electioneering training for dozens of party workers over the period of a year is yet another setback for the beleaguered LP, which last week lost its majority in the House of Representatives in a no-confidence vote.

Party leader Allan Hendrickse last week told a media briefing that he strongly condemned SADF "meddling in black politics". He could not be contacted yesterday, but sources insist that DMI front Adult Education Consultants (AEC) offered the training free of charge. This suggests that the party leadership knew who was behind it.

Sources say that AEC boss Dr Louis Pasques decided that the LP needed help in fighting a by-election at Bokkeveld, near Ceres, in 1988. The training, by as many as eight AEC staffers, provided the model for other by-election campaigns that year in Alra Park and Natal Mid-East.

In all three polls, the LP won handsomely. Cliff Nasson was returned in Bokkeveld; AJ Roper, since a defector to the National Party [NP], won in Alra Park; and Willie White was returned in the Natal constituency.

Nasson confirmed this week he had attended a weekend seminar in Cape Town in 1987 organized by AEC. Party members who attended the course were taught "how to sell the party", how to register voters and generally run their campaigns "right up to election day", Nasson said.

THE WEEKLY MAIL possesses a copy of an SADF-printed certificate awarded to party organizers who successfully completed the electioneering course. It also

has copies of the training program, dealing with such topics as the task of the organizer, pamphleteering and fund-raising.

In the 1988 by-election, Nasson trounced his opponent, Eddie Langeveld of the opposition United Democratic Party [UDP], by what he recalled was a majority of more than 4,500. He said Langeveld had almost lost his deposit.

Nasson said that almost all the LP's branches and regions had similar courses provided for them, and that "as far as he knew", the party had paid for AEC's services.

Sources say the LP was in no position to do so, and in fact approached AEC to raise funds for it while the training was under way.

Halfway through the interview, Nasson, a former teacher, suddenly insisted that he was incorrect in saying AEC ran the courses—information he had earlier volunteered without any prompting.

"It was some other organization...I can't remember the name. It was definitely not Adult Education Consultants." He then asked whether THE WEEKLY MAIL had published articles about AEC placing the organization "in a negative light".

Nasson said he said he had never met AEC's Pasques. "All I know is that Dr Pasques once addressed a national executive committee meeting of the Labor Party."

Asked whether he believed the course had affected the outcome of the election, Nasson said: "I don't think so—we couldn't use many of their strategies. They were of an American style...."

He could not remember which aspects of the training had proved unsuitable.

*** Social Changes Affecting Afrikaans Universities**

92AF0444B Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL
in English 7-13 Feb 92 pp 24, 27

[Article by Ferial Haffajee]

[Text] Long regarded as the backward brothers of their liberal counterparts, the Afrikaans universities are finally coming into their own by tackling the needs of transformation in their backyards.

But at the Afrikaans universities surveyed, the total percentage of black students is below 15 percent of the student population, indicating they still have a long way to go.

The University of Potchefstroom, the first to open its doors to all students, has a black student population of 13 percent. Most of these (eight percent) are post graduates.

At the Rand Afrikaans University [RAU], seven percent of the students are black and the figure for the University of the Orange Free State is six percent.

All facilities have been desegregated. Although Potchefstroom was the first Afrikaans university to open its doors to black students, its residences were only desegregated last year.

Much of the work of change at universities relates to providing services to the surrounding black communities and to making admission for black students easier.

With the influx of black students, language problems raise their head. Most of the Afrikaans medium universities have laid contingency plans for second and third language students.

At the Free State and Potchefstroom universities, students are allowed to answer tests and exams in English while both universities give lectures in English where necessary.

Common to the outreach program of all the universities are law clinics where free legal advice and counsel are given to people who cannot afford it. RAU's Alexandra clinic is the only one operating in a township—all the others operate off campuses.

Other programs common to most Afrikaans universities are the Saturday schools run for metric pupils.

Growing from the success of its tutoring schemes in the townships of Manguang and Botshabelo, near Bloemfontein, the University of the Orange Free State this year launched a multi-disciplinary outreach program. "The purpose of the development program is to ensure responsible admission of students and to make tertiary education more accessible in the Free State region," says a representative.

The program will be run in cooperation with two technical colleges. Students from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or those whose metric results don't allow for admission to university can enter a course at the technical college for the first six months of the year. Their results

determine whether they continue at the technical college, go to a technikon or to university.

The program has the support of regional representatives of the African National Congress, civic associations, the National Education Coordinating Committee and the South African Democratic Teachers Union.

Potch University's Saturday school is run in conjunction with the Department of Education and Development Aid. Run from the Vaal Triangle Campus of the university, a university representative calls the programme "a very successful attempt to bridge the gap between secondary and tertiary education".

The university's Faculty of Nursing is closely involved with the training of people from black communities in collaboration with nurses' colleges. They also assist with the training programs of various mining companies.

Aside from these two programs much outreach work is being done by the university's Students Community Service.

In Promosa, a colored area near Bloemfontein, students assisted home industries in getting started. Now these run on their own and students assist only in finding markets for goods.

Students also run an emergency pharmacy in the black and colored communities under the guidance of the university's Faculty of Pharmacy.

Sports coaching for farm-workers, a nutrition scheme and a bursary scheme are other features of the Student Community Services work.

According to a representative of Pretoria University, "All programs are being evaluated to align them with this orientation. Programs found to have insufficient relevance are being phased out and replaced by others that ensure that the training graduates receive has optimum relevance in their communities."

In 1991, Tukkies established a School for Agriculture and Rural Development. The university is also involved with upgrading teacher skills, focusing on computers, and has recently introduced a new teaching model which was developed at the university's Witbank campus.

"The new model is more student oriented in that it places more emphasis on student involvement," according to a university representative.

Angola**UNITA Denies FDA Claims of Jamba Massacre**

*MB0503071692 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 0600 GMT 5 Mar 92*

[Text] Angolan and foreign journalists will visit Jamba to find out how the residents in that region are living, following claims made by the Angolan Democratic Forum, FDA, that the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] had massacred 50 people. FDA claims that they were massacred as they attempted to occupy the installations of the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in order to express their discontent about how they have been treated in Jamba.

Reacting to FDA claims, Salupeto Pena, head of UNITA's delegation to the Joint Political and Military Commission, said that no Angolan has been killed in Jamba. He invited journalists to discover what is happening there.

[Begin Pena recording] Nothing of the sort has happened in Jamba. Absolutely not. Life in Jamba is pretty normal, without problems. The claim is yet another fabrication by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] which finds it necessary to create political facts. The MPLA does that through the FDA.

Journalists may travel to Jamba whenever they wish and interview the people who live there. [end recording]

The FDA claim is, however, having repercussions throughout the world. Observers have questioned the reason for an emergency meeting of the UNITA Standing Committee in Jamba, considering that that organization is fully capable of holding such a meeting in Luanda. The observers added that FDA's claim coincided with a secret meeting of the UNITA Standing Committee, which shows that something is in fact happening in Jonas Savimbi's headquarters.

The FDA claim has been received with a degree of skepticism in the United States, though a possible stand by the U.S. Department of State has not been ruled out.

UNITA, MPLA Sympathizers Clash in Benguela

*MB0503052692 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Excerpt] A Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola sympathizer has been killed and two others wounded at (Iambala) in Benguela Province in clashes between supporters of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, and the ruling party. The clashes took place after a failed attempt by UNITA elements to prevent the introduction of government administrative officials to the (Iambala) people. District Administrator Paulo Rangel said the UNITA action was premeditated. [passage omitted]

Mozambique**Renamo Says West Maintaining Frelimo in Power**

*MB0403185292 (Clandestine) Voz da Renamo
in Portuguese 1500 GMT 4 Mar 92*

[Station Commentary: "The Mozambique Liberation Front, Frelimo, Denies Democracy to the Mozambican People"]

[Text] The Mozambique Liberation Front's [Frelimo] refusal to grant democracy to the Mozambican people is encouraged by the big countries. This is astonishing if we consider that these countries' leaders have been democratically elected by their people.

The Mozambican people have never elected Frelimo leaders to power. Yet, the Frelimo Marxist dictators have been ruling Mozambique for the past 15 years.

The big countries have supported the continuation of the totalitarian Frelimo regime in power. They have been making serious mistakes, granting money to Frelimo leaders and thus enriching themselves, instead of assisting the Mozambican people.

The financial assistance—the taxes of the peoples of the United States, Britain, Italy, France, Germany, Portugal, the Netherlands, Canada, and other countries—does not reach the Mozambican people who are supposed to receive it. We would like to stress that this money is shared among the Frelimo leaders, enabling them to get involved in big businesses.

We in the Mozambique National Resistance are now scratching our heads to try and understand why Mozambican leaders are viewed with such high esteem by these big countries. We would like to know why they are regarded more than the Mozambican people. We would like to know why other countries' leaders—who are neither Marxists nor dictators but moderates who allow their people freedom—are forthrightly criticized and forced to accept what their people want. Western countries exercise pressure and adopt severe measures against these leaders, including cutting aid, economic sanctions, or supporting opposition groups.

In our country, Frelimo is enslaving the Mozambican people and no one in this world dares to condemn it. It is only Renamo that has been fighting Frelimo on its own and without any assistance from anyone. This situation is most astonishing if we consider that the Frelimo regime is Marxist-oriented.

Although Frelimo has been announcing that it is no longer Marxist, the truth of the matter is that it still is. The Frelimo dictatorial regime has not been elected by the Mozambican people. What is more, it is corrupt and inefficient. It only works for the benefit of its leaders, leaving the Mozambican people in misery.

It is for these reasons that Renamo is fighting the Frelimo regime. It should be noted that there would be

no civil war in Mozambique today had Frelimo not established a Marxist system. Hence our question: Is Renamo wrong in fighting the totalitarian Frelimo regime?

We in Renamo feel that it is absurd to ignore Renamo because we have fought and continue to fight against communism. Western countries, including the United States, are today happy for the victory in the fight against Marxism.

Today, the world is surprised because despite having been isolated, we managed to defeat the totalitarian Frelimo regime assisted by a number of foreign armies, including Zimbabweans, Tanzanians, and Malawians.

There are movements which receive assistance from big countries, but have not achieved good results until now. Others achieved good results only because they were directly assisted by foreign armies who fought side by side with them. Some of these movements admire Renamo's political and military capacity, because they know very well that it is not easy for a movement—which receives no assistance and is fought by many countries—to succeed. We have won despite all the pressure exercised against us worldwide. There are not many cases similar to Renamo's.

In conclusion, we would like to stress that Frelimo survives only because of Western countries, including the United States. The Frelimo leaders accord these countries more respect than the 15 million Mozambicans who suffer day and night and are not viewed as human beings by Frelimo. Frelimo does everything it wishes without anyone condemning it.

The ongoing negotiations in Rome are not progressing well because of the above reasons. As far as Frelimo is concerned, the talks are only a means to end war, regardless as to whether the problems that caused this war are resolved or not. As for the Mozambican people, the ongoing talks in Rome are aimed at guaranteeing democracy, freedom, justice, market economy, and human rights.

Swaziland

'Underground' Movement Conducting Military Camps
MB0503100692 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER
in English 5 Mar 92 pp 1, 3

[Report by Phinda Zwane: "Police probe camps"]

[Text] Police are investigating reports that an underground political movement is conducting small military camps in the Kingdom. According to well-placed sources, the camps are at Luve, Big-Bend and Malkerns.

The Assistant Commissioner of Police (Intelligence), Mr. Francis Maphalala, confirmed that police were investigating the reported existence of the camps.

"I cannot say much lest investigations are disturbed," said Mr. Maphalala stressing that it was not convenient now to talk about the issue.

The The Swazi Observer has been informed that some foreign military experts whom were not identified were involved in the training of the young recruits understandably from the Swaziland Youth Congress (Swayoco).

However, the Vice President of Swayoco, Mr. Mphandlana Shongwe, denied that some of his boys were undergoing military training in the country.

"We are not doing anything like that. However, I wouldn't be surprised if people resort to taking up arms because the government is not prepared to voluntarily hand over power to the majority. It has come to our knowledge that the government is training some security forces to combat Swayoco members and that is why the government is trying to spread stories that we are after the lives of their intelligence and security men. Their stories are calculated at justifying their move of training their forces secretly.

"Should government engage in dirty tricks they will meet with an equally dirty confrontation because we have the necessary means to match up with them," said Mphandlana.

He said a lot of people were not aware that there was a "cold war" in Swaziland between what he called traditional forces and democratic forces.

"See? One cannot just fold his arms and say everything is fine here," he said.

Also contacted for comment, the president of the People's United Democratic Movement (Pudemo), Mr. Kison Shongwe denied knowledge of anything to do with the military training.

"So far, we are committed to a peaceful change and we believe that peaceful means in resolving political problems have not been exhausted to resort to taking up arms.

"We are not training anyone for military purposes, but we urge the government to refrain from using violence against people demonstrating peacefully and expressing views which are unacceptable to government," said.

Zambia

Residents Angered by Mealie Meal Price Increase
MB0503052192 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] The new hike in the price of mealie meal has angered some people in Mufulira who have accused the government of trying to strangle them. A number of people talked to by ZANA [ZAMBIA NEWS AGENCY] said while they appreciate government was trying to put Zambia's economy on the right (?track), they did not take kindly to [word indistinct] methods being used.

They said since the restructuring process began, Zambians, particularly the civil servants, have been used as a sacrificial lamb of the whole process.

President Appeals For Calm

MB0503052392 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] President Chiluba has called on Zambians to bear with the government following continued price increases of commodities, saying the government has no choice but to effect the price measures.

Addressing a rally at Zambezi Freedom Square this morning, President Chiluba said UNIP [United National Independence Party] was responsible for the state of the economy and that Zambia incurred a foreign debt of \$7.5 billion.

Mr. Chiluba told the crowd that UNIP leaders behaved as if Zambia was a private enterprise from which they gave themselves goods and services at the expense of people. Mr. Chiluba said prices will continue rising because it is the only way to repair the ravaged economy.

Zimbabwe

Parliamentary Committee Reports Army in 'Chaos'

MB0503052892 London BBC World Service in English 1830 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Report by Harare correspondent Sarah Stance on the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Zimbabwe Government and the military top brass could be squirming with embarrassment today. Just as the Army is busy with plans to streamline itself, a report has come out by a parliamentary committee set up to look into the efficiency of the security forces, and it

says the Army is in such chaos that it would be hard-pressed to carry out its main job as guarding Zimbabwe's borders. From Harare, Sarah Stancer reports:

[Begin Stancer recording] Imagine you are a president who paid lots of money each year to keep a large army to defend you and your country, and then imagine your reaction if a special parliamentary committee reported that your army was in such disrepair that it was unlikely to be competent to do the right job that it was meant to do—guarding the nation.

Well, this is no dream in Zimbabwe, for it is indeed what the committee has found. A findings released today has revealed an army in chaos with words like acres of unserviceable vehicles, army workshops in a [word indistinct] condition, troops living in inhumane condemned accommodations, and communications worth millions of dollars left in a building that was about to fall apart.

The eight-member committee which has spent the last six months visiting barracks and interviewing army personnel, found troops living in shacks, some even in squatter camps, far from barracks that were themselves falling down, and asked Parliament how these troops could be brought under any authoritative command in an emergency.

Even the Presidential Guard came into scrutiny with the committee finding cookers not working and food which had been prepared in unhygienic conditions. Washing facilities as well were [word indistinct], blocked, and in a complete state of disrepair. Some of the criticism was for the [word indistinct] the Army's transport or nontransport, for many Army vehicles have broken down and remain so. Some for as long as five years because of the shortage of spares.

The Army is currently facing the loss of jobs with the government plans to streamline and make the Armed Forces more economically efficient. But with this report, even the government's priorities might have to be changed so as to enable the Army to actually be an army. [end recording]

Ivory Coast

Security Forces, Demonstrating Students Clash

AB0503113592 Paris AFP in French 1044 GMT
5 Mar 92

[Text] Abidjan, 5 Mar (AFP)—Security forces intervened in several government high schools in Abidjan this morning where students refused to attend classes. Several dozen students were arrested, an AFP reporter observed. The students were demonstrating to demand the release of Martial Ahipeaud, the student leader sentenced last week to three years in jail.

At the Lycee Technique and Lycee Classique high schools, gendarmes and police fired teargas to disperse groups of students who were stoning them. Similar incidents occurred at Adjame, a district north of Abidjan where, shortly after the intervention of the security forces, the ground around the junior high school there was littered with stones and teargas canisters. Witnesses spoke of police interventions in three other educational institutions. No incident was reported at the university campus but it seemed very few lectures were taking place there.

Martial Ahipeaud, secretary general of the Federation of University and High School Students of Ivory Coast [FESCI], which was officially banned in June 1991, was sentenced on 27 February to three years in jail for reconstituting a banned association, and for responsibility in the destruction that occurred early February during a FESCI-sponsored demonstration.

Following this sentence, the student, who has been transferred to a prison in the interior of the country, has announced that he has embarked on a hunger strike. FESCI has called for the boycott of lectures until the release of its leader.

Liberia

NPFL Rebels Seize Chartered Nigerian Vessel

AB0503133092 Paris AFP in English 1305 GMT
5 Mar 92

[Text] Monrovia, March 5 (AFP)—Liberian rebels have seized a Nigerian boat chartered out to U.S.-based Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and detained 13 of its crew, CRS announced Thursday. The vessel was unloading food at Greenville port in Sinoe County, 250 miles (400 kilometres) southeast of Monrovia, when 24 rebels of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) impounded it.

A member of the crew who escaped to Monrovia said his colleagues, including Nigerians and Ghanaians, were detained by rebels who charged that the vessel was operating in the area "illegally".

CRS officials said they contracted the boat, MV Victory River, to deliver relief food to the southeastern Maryland, Sinoe and Grand Bassa counties.

Other crew included a Greek captain and a Bulgarian engineer.

The escapee, a Nigerian who asked not to be named, said the detainees were being held in "humiliating conditions", adding that the NPFL had stolen the food on board, including rice, cooking oil and powdered milk.

The crewman was in the hands of the West African peacekeeping force operating in Liberia known as ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], which is led by Nigerians and includes Ghanaians.

Taylor bitterly opposed ECOMOG intervention in Liberia's two-year-old civil war. An ECOMOG spokesman Thursday said the peace-keepers were exerting efforts to secure the release of the vessel and its crew.

Mali

Opposition Parties Question Election Results

AB0403133092 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television
du Mali Radio in French 2000 GMT 28 Feb 92

[Statement issued by 14 opposition political parties following the publication of the results of the first round of the legislative elections held on 23 February—read by Souleymane Kantara Cissoko, not further identified]

[Text] Desirous of providing our country with genuinely democratic institutions, we the undersigned political parties issued a statement on 8 February expressing our concern in regard to the electoral timetable imposed by the government, and in view of the notorious lack of preparation of the government for organizing free and fair elections. Given these circumstances, the head of state and the prime minister were informed. A special letter was addressed to the head of state drawing his attention to the serious dangers threatening our nascent democracy because of the following legitimate apprehensions:

1. Lack of neutrality on the part of the administration;
2. The very short period for the special revision of the voters register;
3. The drawing up of the voters register on the basis of decrees issued for the municipal elections which is tantamount to the legitimization of fraud;
4. New drastic conditions imposed for the acquisition of voters' cards;
5. Nonissuance of new ballot papers—the 23 February election took place with the same ballot papers issued for the 26 January election, which endorses and intensifies

fraud. The ministerial decree authorizing voting on 23 February with the 26 January ballot papers was announced only 48 hours before the election date whereas mobile polling stations should have begun operating (?two) days earlier;

6. It is now established that delible ink was used despite the assertions to the contrary by the minister of territorial administration.

Setting aside the concerns raised, the transitional authorities stubbornly organized the 23 February legislative elections. Thus, these elections legalized fraud and set out to hand over power to one party, namely, the Alliance for Democracy in Mali, ADEMA, as we feared. In fact, these elections, which resulted from generalized fraud, are neither fair nor credible, because the decrees that were illegally applied during the municipal elections were legalized. The largely contested 26 January ballot papers were stubbornly maintained to serve again on 23 February. ADEMA, through its political secretary, admitted to printing false ballot papers alongside with those printed by the state for its campaigns.

The very low participation rate defies simple common-sense. The rate alone constitutes in itself a defiance vote by the overwhelming majority of the people against the manner in which the elections were organized. One cannot found the Third Republic of Mali without nearly 80 percent of the nation. Besides, one can hardly find the words to describe the case of deputies elected with four votes; that is, 0.5 percent of the electorate as in the case of the ADEMA deputy for Abeibara or in the case of the ADEMA deputy, (Sethil Sacko), who was elected with 54 votes, or 2.1 percent of the electorate. This was simply unacceptable.

People of good conscience, in their innocence, strove to demonstrate the fairness of these elections of which they ignored the prerequisites, that of guaranteeing openness. What will they say about these special cases in point? In the sixth administrative district of Bamako many genuine voters found that others had voted and signed in their place—voters had voted for others without authorization; voters registers disappeared; voters went to the polling stations but did not find their names on the voters' register. Other cases include that of voters who voted several times with impunity; the counting of votes before 1800 in the absence of witnesses; voting at 1400 in the presence of the assessor of only one party; the choice of polling station chairmen almost exclusively from one party—ADEMA—a major party; the smuggling of voters cards in several constituencies; the organized retention of voters cards; lack of ballot papers of some parties at Fangasso, Dougnan, Daoudabougou districts; voting by citizens with illegal voters cards; the reutilization of counterfeit cards, and voting in the small villages which entailed the displacement of voters.

In accordance with Article 149 of the Electoral Code, several applications for candidacy were null and void. Mobile polling stations did not start operations eight

days before 23 February, in accordance with the Electoral Code. Finally, and above all, it was totally impossible for parties to check the genuineness of the results published by the administration.

To keep silent over such anomalies would mean legitimizing an authority whose formation goes against the ideals of people who respect the rule of law, and any institution resulting from these elections will henceforth be subject to political contestation. Consequently, the political parties reaffirm their determination to fight for the installation of true democracy so that our country does not fall under the dictates of a dominating party on illegal bases, a situation worse than what we experienced under the single party system.

Signed by the Sudanese Progressive Party, Sudanese Union-African Democratic Rally, Rally for Democracy and Progress, BTJ, UNDP, PUDP [expansions unknown], National Committee for Democratic Initiative, Union for Democracy and Development, RPI, RPDI, PMD, PAD, PFDP, PRDP [expansions unknown].

Groups React to Opposition Party Declaration

AB0403151492

[Editorial Report] Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du Mali Radio in French at 2000 GMT on 29 February carries reactions from two political groups to the 28 February declaration by 14 opposition parties, which questioned the results of the 23 February legislative elections.

Sudanese Union-African Democratic Rally, US-RDA: In a protest motion issued on 29 February, the US-RDA national steering committee says that it "learned with surprise and indignation" that the party, according to its so-called crisis committee, is signatory to a declaration questioning the results of the legislative elections. It "most strongly protests against this vile act" of usurping the party's initials by the so-called crisis committee made up of people dropped from the US-RDA, whom it describes as its erstwhile saboteurs. It solemnly reaffirms "its respect for the verdict of the ballots" and "its will to defend by all legal means" the electoral timetable and dates of the transition. In conclusion, it says the so-called crisis committee and members "acted in their name only," adding that the party is determined to help build a new Mali.

Alliance for Democracy in Mali-African Party for Solidarity and Justice, ADEMA-PASJ:

The party, in a statement also issued on 29 February, denounces the declaration, which questioned the electoral results and accused the authorities of trying to cede power to the ADEMA-PASJ. The party says that such an action "seriously mistrusts our institutions and insults our people." The statement adds that the ADEMA-PASJ is faithful to fundamental democratic values and "will

scrupulously and calmly abide by" the provisions contained in the electoral code to challenge any irregularities. It also says it will "neither yield to provocation nor any form of intimidation" concerning the continuation of the democratic process. It reaffirms its will "to cooperate closely in solidarity" with all democratic forces and democrats on the basis of a republican pact. It then calls on the Malian people "to remain vigilant and mobilize to preserve the democratic process."

Niger

French Envoy Discusses Aid Accord, Recent Events

AB0503110792 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network
in French 1200 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Excerpts] This morning, France and Niger signed a financial agreement amounting to 2 billion CFA francs. It was signed by Mamane Ibrahim, secretary of state to the minister of economy and finance in charge of the budget, and Gerard Carpentier, director of the French Central Fund for Economic Cooperation. Michel Lunven, the French ambassador to Niger, who attended the ceremony, explains to our correspondent Seydou Abdou what the money will be used for.

[Begin Lunven recording] We have just signed an additional financial accord which provides 2 billion CFA francs to the Government of Niger to pay the state's arrears to local suppliers. This agreement shows once more that France, Niger's major money supplier, is now more than ever on Niger's side. We are giving Niger this assistance prior to the signing of a confirmed credit agreement with the IMF and the World Bank, an agreement which we sincerely hope will be signed. We hope that this assistance will prompt other donors to also help your country which is experiencing a tragic economic and financial situation. [end recording]

Michel Lunven also gave clarifications on criticisms leveled against France here in Niger over the past few days. Let us listen to him.

[Begin recording] Following the events of the past few days and criticisms leveled against France, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to clarify some points. Since the beginning of these events, France has given its support to the transition authorities. Indeed, I have kept in touch with the president of the Republic, the chairman of the High Council of the Republic, the prime minister, and various Cabinet members. France's position has never changed. This was confirmed in an official communique issued by the French Foreign Ministry on Monday, 2 March. [passage omitted]

Furthermore, I recall that at the outset, France supported the Niger people's efforts to set up democratic institutions. We closely monitored the deliberations of the national conference and contributed materially to its success, therefore, statements made over the past few days according to which France is not supporting the

democratization process and could even hinder it are obviously quite contrary to reality. Achieving democracy is, without any doubt, a long and difficult task, made up of headways and drawbacks and, unfortunately, some excesses are unavoidable. I can remind you of the accusation made during the demonstration and which was broadcast by the television and national radio. The accusation reported that for one week a French technical assistant had obtained 116 million CFA francs meant for soldiers' pay. This is false and absurd and I explained this to the prime minister who has even met the French technical assistant. The French technical assistants working at the pay department have taken the necessary measures to make swift payments as soon as they are in possession of money from the Treasury.

Moreover, I believe some Nigerois might have been surprised and shocked about the coverage of events by the French media. I am making it a point to categorically recall that the reporters are the only ones responsible for their reports and comments. The French press is totally free and, evidently, the work of these reporters does not, in any case, represent the official view of the French Government. France's spokesman in Niger is not Radio France Internationale, TF1 television, or Antenne-2 television. The French ambassador is the direct representative of the president of the French Republic. He is the one who conveys France's position, and this is what I just did earlier.

Each one of us knows personally that as a sincere friend of Africa and Niger, in particular, I have always held my door open to representatives or leaders of all social and political leanings wishing to engage in frank and sincere dialogue. I am still ready to listen to them.

I will conclude by expressing the wish that this clarification will help to clear some misunderstandings between us, and to strengthen the longstanding friendship between our two countries. [end recording]

Minister on Situation, Negotiations With Tuaregs

AB0403221092 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 4 Mar 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The past week in Niger has been a pretty bumpy one for the transitional government, threatening the democratic process. Soldiers have repeatedly seized the radio station, taken ministers hostage, and freed the jailed army captain, Maliki Bourahima. The soldiers were demanding settlement of pay arrears, the sacking of senior officers, and the reinstatement of Maliki.

In response, union leaders called a general strike against the mutiny, shutting down the capital, Niamey, for the past two days. But now with the transitional government saying it will be sympathetic to the soldiers' pay grievances but not their political ones, the soldiers are apparently going back to barracks and the general strike has

been called off. On the line to Niamey, Rachid Mir asked the Minister for Internal Affairs Mohamed Moussa if that meant Niger's democratic process was back on course.

[Begin recording] [Moussa] I think what has happened in the last three days is a good demonstration that the democratic process is very well in action in Niger. I think that all the unions, all the political parties and associations, and also even the government—as you note the actual government is issued from the national conference and also issued from the democratic forces—we are all fighting in the same way.

[Mir] At the same time, the government in Niger does not seem to have much control over the soldiers. Are you confident that this sort of thing is not going to happen again with the soldiers?

[Moussa] As you know, it is a very long process. I think they can make the same actions again but there is no fear about it.

[Mir] Now, Mr. Maliki has been something of a thorn in the side of the government. Where is he at the present time?

[Moussa] Actually, he is in one of the soldiers' camps.

[Mir] And is the government able to go in and get him out of there?

[Moussa] Yes, I think we can do it if we want by force, but we do not need to use force. We are currently negotiating for conditions for him to go back to his position.

[Mir] But at the same time, Mr. Maliki has been out for the last few days and the government has not been able to actually bring him back to book.

[Moussa] I think the government has said its decision that Mr. Maliki has to go back to (?jail) and actually he still have some soldiers who are trying to convince him to go back his position. [sentence as heard] As you know all these events which have happened in Niger, we are trying to solve everything by negotiation. We are not using force.

[Mir] Now, what about the Tuaregs in all of this? Because Tuaregs must be getting very nervous that the government is getting ready to sell out the Tuaregs in order to keep its military support.

[Moussa] Well, we are acting actually about the Tuareg problem, we are trying to set up the process of negotiation with them. That is our policy that we have set up. We have to negotiate with all the national people we have some problems with the nation or with any part of the power. I think the Tuareg people, the problem will be discussed soon and maybe we should find good solutions. [end recording]

Nigeria

Visiting Beninese President Urges Closer Ties

AB0503112992 Paris AFP in English 0532 GMT
4 Mar 92

[Text] Lagos, March 4 (AFP)—Benin's President Nicephore Soglo on Wednesday urged closer ties between his country and Nigeria, saying the two neighbors should form a "hard core" of regional cooperation launched from Nigeria.

Soglo, who arrived here Tuesday on a three-day state visit, was speaking at a conference on the democratic process which brought him to office last year through a national conference.

The establishment of "open trade" between the two countries would help eradicate smuggling between the two countries, Soglo told his audience which included ministers from the two countries, the civilian governor of Lagos state, diplomats, academics and human rights organisations.

Nigerian products such as gas and petrol were being smuggled to Benin while wheat and rice have been entering Nigeria illegally from Benin following a Nigerian Government ban on their importation about four years ago, he said.

He said his administration, which took over from former dictator Mathieu Kerekou, faced the challenge of eradicating a host of ills such as poverty, illiteracy, illness, and wars and unemployment.

"These impediments can threaten democracy and reverse the democratic process," said. "Democracy is only consistent with a strong economy and a more just society," he told the gathering.

'Biggest University' Shut Down 'Indefinitely'

AB0403154592 Paris AFP in English 1510 GMT
4 Feb 92

[Text] Lagos, March 4 (AFP)—Nigeria's biggest university was shut down indefinitely Wednesday [4 February] following a student boycott of lectures and demonstrations, a reliable source said.

The Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), in Zaria, northern Nigeria is the country's biggest with a student population of about 17,000.

According to the source contacted by telephone, the university registrar said the decision had been taken to avoid possible clashes and destruction of property.

Press reports here said that students demonstrated in the university Tuesday, chasing the vice-chancellor off the campus.

Although no official reason for the boycott of lectures was given, the source said students wanted first semester

examinations to be postponed from Thursday until after this month's Ramadan Moslem fasting period.

Sierra Leone

Army Chief Reports on War Against Rebels

AB0503141592 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 4 Mar 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The civil war in Sierra Leone continues to drag on. The Army is still fighting rebels, especially in Kailahun District, who are allegedly backed by Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia from neighboring Liberia. Some would say it is taking the Army a surprisingly long time to crush the rebellion. Well, our correspondent, Victor Silva, has been talking to Army chief General Tarawalli about the cause of the war and he telexed this report from Freetown.

[Begin studio announcer recording] Major Gen. Tarawalli claimed that a total of 112 rebels had so far surrendered to the Sierra Leone Army in an operation designed to flush out pockets of rebel resistance. In an interview this morning the Army chief told me that his forces are now implementing the final phase of Operation Jungle Punch, aimed at putting a complete halt to the war by the end of the year.

He said that the delay in achieving this object was due to a large extent to the type of terrain where fighting was going on, bush and forest. To ensure complete liberation, he said, it was necessary to cover every inch of ground and ensure that a thorough job was done. The Army chief said that his troops could not just bombard positions thought to be in rebel hands for fear of killing and maiming innocent Sierra Leoneans caught behind rebel lines.

Gen. Tarawalli claimed that the entire southern region had been rid of rebels in phases one and two of the three-phase plan. This, he claimed, had resulted in the capture of strategic towns and villages like Zimi, Pujehun, and Bunumbu. Phase three, he said, is mainly concentrated in the Kailahun District where rebels are now engaged in various acts of banditry.

He said that the Army has also launched a campaign in which leaflets are scattered over rebel-controlled pockets of territory appealing to them to surrender with the offer of humane treatment. He said that the response so far had been encouraging with rebels writing in to tell of their locations and then surrendering without a shot being fired. [end recording]

President Urges Teachers To Return to Classes

AB0503090292 Freetown SLBS Radio in English
2000 GMT 2 Mar 92

[Excerpts] The president, Dr. Joseph Saidu Momoh, has urged teachers throughout the country to go back to the

classroom and desist from using the future of the children and the country as a tool or weapon for bargaining.

President Momoh, who was speaking during the opening session of the [words indistinct] Market in Kenema on Friday, [28 February] explained the various stages his government has gone through in negotiations with the teachers union with a view to reaching an agreement acceptable to all parties. He expressed disappointment in the attitude of teachers who have remained adamant in spite of all efforts for them to see reason and go back to school in the light of the current war and economic atmosphere in the country.

President Momoh said there was no doubt that teachers, as indeed all public sector workers, deserve salary increases but the magnitude and timing of their demands were inappropriate if only for the war at hand which was costing government 200 million leones per month on rations, medicines, and fuel alone excluding ammunition which is bought in foreign currency.

Dr. Momoh maintained that the increases in salaries and allowances for teachers and public servants recently announced, were the best government can afford under the prevailing circumstances although government was willing to add some extras as the situation improved.

President Momoh also took the opportunity to touch on the practical aspects of the multiparty political dispensation which he described as the best if practiced properly but regretted that the violence and tribalism that were beginning to emerge will negate all the good attributes of the system.

He appealed to all participants in the new dispensation to desist from tribal, regional, and religious tendencies which, he said, will set the country ablaze, and reminded all about the rules and regulations laid down by the 1991 Constitution as the only [words indistinct] for the new dispensation which was already showing signs of adulteration. [passage omitted]

Dr. Momoh described 1992 as a very eventful year in the political history of this country as it will witness the presidential and general elections, urging the people to use their franchise wisely by voting in candidates who have their welfare at heart. [passage omitted]

Teachers Agrees To End Strike

AB0503095092 Freetown SLBS Radio in English
2000 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] The Sierra Leone Teachers Union has agreed to end their five-week old strike and return to classes within the shortest possible time. The executive of the union are to summon an emergency meeting of the general body to

consider government's final proposals and work out the modalities for the earliest return to the classrooms.

At a meeting at State House this morning during which they received a passionate appeal from President Momoh who explained government's present critical economic situation, the president of the union, Mr. Van Kabu, after consultation with his executive, the Committee of Concerned Parents, and the National Council for Children, announced their understanding of the situation and assured the president of their cooperation.

Mr. Kabu explained the plight of teachers generally and emphasized that their intention was not to use the children as a target but to urge government to ameliorate their conditions. Government, he said, must be ready to pay for quality education if our children's future is to be protected.

In his immediate reaction to the announcement, President Momoh said the teachers have demonstrated a high level of patriotism by assuring government and the nation that they will swallow the bitter pill in the interest of our children's future. The teachers have been able to drive home some hard truths and my administration will endeavor to further study the problem with the view to finding a lasting solution to them, he said. The head of state also remarked that only a worthless father can take delight in seeing his children suffer, adding that the stalemate was not protracted to displace our children and disrupt their future.

Earlier in a (?prepared) address, the president said that government recognizes and appreciates the need for an enhancement of the standard of living of teachers as well as all other public sector employees but government, he said, also has responsibility to ensure that such increases in salaries lead to real and sustained improvement in the living conditions of the recipients.

The president disclosed that government has embarked on a number of measures aimed at bringing down the rate of inflation and restoring external confidence in the economy through expenditure control and fiscal management, public service reforms, thereby pruning the number of workers in the service, revenue generation, and attraction of external financial assistance.

The president believes that through this approach the economy will begin to grow and the rate of inflation will drop by more than a half by the end of this year. He ended that as a gesture of goodwill, government is prepared to pay teachers their February salaries provided they return to work early this month.

A consensus reached during contributions to the meeting include the weeding out of ghost teachers and a commitment from every individual teacher empowering government to collect their monthly dues within the [word indistinct] system. Otherwise, President Momoh stressed, this is a society where the freedom of association is entrenched in our Constitution and we cannot work against the individual convictions of any teacher to belong to a union.

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6 March 1992

